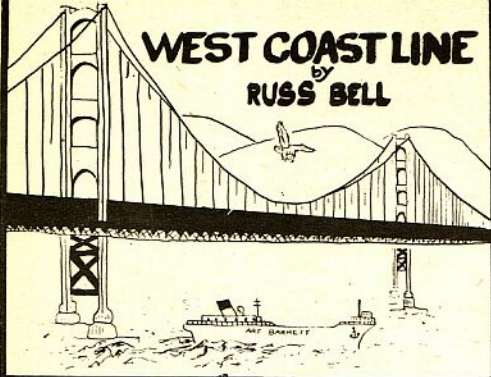


WEST COAST LINE

by
RUSS BELL



Well at last we are able to get at the column again. Having changed ships and being out of touch of Corps life for a spell has been rough, but here is what I have picked up last week before sailing.

While in a short stay in Seattle we visited the practice of the SHAMROCKS who are hard at work for the V.F.W. Drum instructor John Broderick and Music director Dwane Andrews were really impressed with this up-and-coming Seattle Jr. Corps. Miss Kathy Ford was up from So. California to help her ex-boss Mr. Andrews with the M&M of the Shamrocks and is still finding time to help the new Jr. Corps, EL TOREADORS.

The Blue Angels Jr. of Renton, Washington are sponsoring a contest on Aug. 25 before Nationals for all Corps who are coming to Seattle. Contact Bill Matheson, P.O. Box 387, Tukwila, Washington for details on the pre-V.F.W. contest.

The high-riding HAWKS of Richmond continue on their winning ways by taking 1st at the Stockton contest which was an Open affair: Hawks Jrs., 83.2; Joaquin Caballeros Sr. 71.5; and the Delta Thunderbirds Jr., 62.1. There will be another contest in Stockton July 27.

The Hawks drum section has improved due to the strong efforts of Larry Saxman, former Grey Knight who is in the area helping the Corps.

Miss Vonnie Melton is proud of her 16 girl Color Guard these days. It is the largest Guard the Hawks have fielded, and it includes the Japanese Flag from the City of Shamada for which the City of Richmond is the Sister City in the Meet the People program urged by the President.

I wish to congratulate the new State Jr. Champions, the Japanese

Boy Scouts, for taking home first. The questions as to why the Hawks did not show can be answered in one word: MONEY. The \$1,500 southern journey topped by the Hawks new \$2,400 uniforms and the trip to Seattle would be too much in Hawkland.

We have received many fine Corps papers in our absence from the pad. I want to thank Les Dlabay for the Mouthpiece from the Berwyn Blue Knights of Berwyn, Illinois and Charles Eastland of the Mariners Log from Astoria, Oregon on the mighty Columbia river. I would like to tell you a story of this Corps. I sail up the Columbia River enroute to Portland and I can hear their corps practicing on Sat. Mornings from the ship as we sail by. I wish we could stop but no-too shallow for our tub.

I would like to continue my plea for information on your Drum Major, picture and background so we can feature the Drum Major of the month. I have some information on our fair state that I would like to pass on too, as we have been asked by so many to furnish info on the opportunities of California, jobs, Corps, living conditions, etc. There is so much future out here with Corps that has never been presented. So stay tuned to Unkle Rusty's gab fest and we'll have a reelly big shew for you.

Speaking of shows I hear Mr. Joe O'Day is running a radio program in Los Angeles on Corps, news, and tapes, etc. Mon. evenings. Will give you time and station later. So it's all clear port and starboard and Kului via Mulaei and all that south sea jazz. Your sea-going reporter who has his new D.C.N. Cap and is mighty grateful to D.C.N. Russ Bell 404 23rd St., (when I'm there), Richmond, California.